

ALTERATIONS TO FOOTBALL LAWS.

Scottish Amendments; Notes on England's International Eleven.

By Steve Bloomer.

Some little time ago I referred to a football law, having reference to an incident following upon a "throw down." Play had been stopped for an injury, the ball was thrown down when the player had received attention, and before it reached the ground one player touched the ball. My correspondent told me that the referee awarded the other side a free kick, and asked me if this was a correct decision. I replied that I did not think so, as all my experience had taught me that the ball is regarded as "dead"—not in play—until it reaches the ground.

I put forward this point of view in all good faith. I could find no other interpretation of the law concerning the point. Yet I was informed that I was wrong. That being so, I took advice before making any further reply, and then I came up against a blank wall. I found that many football authorities were divided in their judgment. Some confirmed my decision; others declared that the referee was right.

To cut the story short. Last week the Football Association agreed to advise the International Board to so alter the law as to make it an offence if a player touches the ball before it reaches the ground. This being so, I claim that my interpretation of the old law is correct. If it is not correct why should there be any alteration necessary? I do not enter into the question of whether a player ought to be fouled for his interfering with the ball before it reaches the ground. That is purely a matter for the authorities, and it is a minor detail at best. All I claim is that those referees who have put their own interpretation on the rule and have been granting free kicks have been previous in their judgment. If the amended law comes into force all well and good.

I cannot pass on to other topics without saying that our laws are

not what they should be. Every year we get new amendments and new additions; every year brings new explanatory paragraphs. It is all very well to keep on in this way, but the fact of the matter is, the laws of football have never yet been properly and clearly worded. It would be a god-send to players, referees and officials were the authorities to tackle the job and draft the laws afresh.

Scotch Proposals.

I notice that Scotland is out with several proposed amendments to the law. They are to bring up their hardy annual offside law amendment, though, this year, they have not published on what lines this will be, though I am given to understand that it will be a 40 yards line, instead of the 25 yards line.

The 40-yards line idea was the one which Chelsea and the Corinthians wished to try out, but which was not permitted by the English authorities. It looks, therefore, as though the English F.A. will not welcome the new proposal, though it is just as well to point out that Mr. Charles Sutcliffe—a mighty man to have on any side—is now convinced that the offside law requires amending. When he comes along with this decision, then the long suffering crowds have good reason to be hopeful.

Scotland is also suggesting that a goal shall count from goal-kicks, place-kicks and corner-kicks. This is not a sweeping alteration. There are never goals scored from a goal kick. The feat is almost impossible, but there are many times when a ball finds its way into the net direct from a corner kick. Under present law no goal is counted. The defending side is awarded a goal kick.

Yet such a feat is far harder than, say, scoring from the penalty spot. Is it right that it should go unrewarded? It must be admitted that luck largely enters in the performance of the

feat. When there is a stiff breeze blowing it is quite possible for the ball to be carried into the net, but even so, the player who takes the kick shows rare judgment in allowing for all the conditions that prevail. The point is so small that it is hardly worth bothering whether the amendment is agreed to or not.

In the matter of "place-kicks," this will be found to be of much greater importance. Not because goals are likely to be scored, but because some confusion is likely to arise as to what constitutes a "place-kick." A place-kick is a kick at the ball while it is on the ground in the centre of the field of play. A place-kick is not a free kick! There are free kicks from which no goal can be scored direct, so that it must be made clear that this amendment does not refer to "free kicks." If the law is altered we may have players taking a pot shot at goal from the centre spot, but that won't matter.

CRONIN CUP ASSOCIATION.

The draw of the Cronin Cup, 1st round, is as follows:—

Kenilworth v Leichhardt.

Annandale Altona v Lilyfield Rangers.

Balmain Scottish v Sunlight.

Balmain Gladstone the bye.

HINTS FOR CLUB SECRETARIES.

- (1) All protests must be in writing, and in duplicate, and lodged with 10/- fee within two days.
- (2) See that your club always has a ball available.
- (3) See that your players take the field in proper uniform—fines will be enforced.
- (4) Send the result of your match to the Secretary each week, whether you win or lose.
- (5) Send your delegate to the Council Meeting, held on the first Monday in each month.

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DID YOU KNOW THAT.

The semi-finalists for the Richardson Cup are West Wallsend, Kurri Kurri, Balgownie and Woonona Park, and that the semi-finals take place to-day at Woonona as follows:—

Woonona Park v Kurri Kurri 1.45. Referee, Mr. T. Simmonds.
West Wallsend v Balgownie 3.15 p.m. Referee, Mr. J. Veigel.

Sydney and West Wallsend played three times in the final of the Gardiner Cup last year, the results being a scoreless draw, a 4—4 draw, and a win for West Wallsend on the Tramway Ground, one goal to nil.

Mr. A. E. Court, the referee of the replay of the Sydney-West Wallsend match, has been appointed the referee of the Gardiner Cup final.

SOUTH COAST NEWS.

Port Kembla won the Lindsay Cup, a knock-out competition for Second Grade teams. The winners beat Woonona Park in the final by 2 goals to 1.

Canterbury was the only Sydney team successful last Saturday. The Cantabs beat Thirroul 2—1. Auburn were defeated by Corrimal 3 to nil, and Annandale Altona by Tarrawanna 3—2.

There should be fine games witnessed at Woonona to-day, where the semi-finals of the Richardson Cup are being staged.

Mr. Jack Hawke, Hon. Secretary I.D.S.A., presented the Lindsay Cup to the winners last week, and the ceremony of "filling her up," so it is reported, was royally carried out.

Woonona, Wallsend's opponents to-day, as will be seen from the competition table, have an unbeaten record this season, and have already won the premiership. This is certainly a great feat with a team like Balgownie, which has Thompson, Masters and Ward in the vanguard, amongst the beaten teams.

The injury to the hand of Mr. W. Cunningham, President of the I.D.S.A., is, all will be pleased to learn, not as serious as was first reported. The genial "Bill" enjoyed the splendid fight between Sydney and West Wallsend last Saturday, and for the time being forgot all about the injured member.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE.

Up to September 6th, 1924.

First League—First Division.

	P	W	L	D	Pts
Woonona	12	9	0	3	21
Corrimal	13	7	3	3	17
Coledale	12	7	2	3	17
Balgownie	11	6	1	4	16
Tarrawanna	12	5	7	0	10
Holensburgh	12	4	6	2	10
Thirroul	12	2	9	1	5

THE SUNLIGHT CUP.

No further progress was made with this competition, as a result of last Saturday's games, as Botany Albions and Sunlight played a one-goal draw, while the Campsie Thistle-Pymont game was abandoned by the referee as a result of the delay caused through player O'Toole, of Pymont, breaking a leg. Both games are being replayed to-day. Unfortunately, the other fixtures—Bankstown v Pymont or Campsie Thistles, and Metters v Sunlight or Botany Albions have been deferred pending the finalisation of to-day's games.

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Editorial.

The Gardiner Cup.

The semi-finals of the State championship competition being played to-day, draw attention to the fact that probably no other sphere of sport can boast of possessing a trophy, as old, or surrounded by so much history as the Gardiner Cup. Of the many competitions controlled by Soccer authorities, the Gardiner Cup is pre-eminent. It is the "blue riband" of the round ball code in New South Wales. Therefore these Cup games, generally speaking, provide sterling exhibitions, especially in the semi-finals and final.

Inaugurated in 1888, the Gardiner Cup has been played, except for a spell of two years during the war, without interruption ever since. Of the contestants to-day, the present West Wallsend team won the Cup in 1921, and are the holders. West Wallsend were also successful in 1900 and 1901. Neither the names of Sydney, Woonona or Wallsend have yet been inscribed on the Cup, so to-day's games are being looked forward to with great interest. Sydney have a hard task before them, but can be depended upon to acquit themselves creditably. Wallsend and Woonona are prospective premiers, and premiers in their respective districts, so a hard game may be expected between these teams.

It is hoped that a high standard of play may be reached, so that our own players witnessing the games may learn a little something, and also the code gain further adherents as a result.

PRESENTATION.

A pleasing little ceremony took place at the last meeting of Pymont Rangers F.C., Mr. T. Hayton, a member of the club, who was recently married, being presented with a handsome clock by his club mates, who wished him every success in his new life.



GARDINER CUP.

The Gardiner Cup was presented to the Association in April, 1888, by W. A. Gardiner, Esq., York Street, Sydney, as a Challenge Cup. West Wallsend are the present holders; the winners of the Cup are entitled to style themselves "State Champions."

CLUB PARS.

Michael O'Toole, of Pymont Club, fractured his leg last Saturday, and during the formalities at the Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, an enquiry was made as to the patient's religion. Mick's name speaks for itself, but one of his facetious pals replied, "Scotch!" Even Michael smiled.

Warren Avoca, by defeating Rozelle Waratahs in the Juvenile final by the odd goal in three, have now qualified to meet Punch Park in the final.

Warren Iona, after four unsuccessful attempts, defeated Newtown Iona by 2 goals to nil.

Campsie Thistle v Pymont—both teams took the K.O.

Mr. A. Morgan, who until recently was a member of the executive committee, and who was the manager of the first Australian Soccer team to leave the Commonwealth, has left Brisbane to take over the Club Hotel, Cunnamulla.

DISTRICT FOOTBALL

Further Important Decisions.

PERCENTAGES AND "CUT" TO CLUBS.

At last Monday's adjourned meeting of the Metropolitan Association, some further important decisions were made, the chief of which provide for the separate running of the District Club to the District Association, and percentages of gates to be allotted the clubs.

The decisions arrived at to date are as follows:—

(1) "That in view of the report of the special sub-committee appointed by Council, this special general meeting adopts the principle of District Football for next year, and instructs the sub-committee to draft a new set of competition rules for submission to the Annual Rules Revision meeting."

(2) That district football be played on a strictly residential basis, each district club to have a first and second grade.

(3) That the number of district clubs in the metropolitan area be eight.

(4) The following district clubs with the boundaries set out were then decided upon:—

Balmain.—The municipalities of Balmain and Drummoyne, Annandale-Leichhardt.—The municipalities of Annandale, Leichhardt, Petersham, and that part of the municipalities of Burwood and Ashfield north of the Main Suburban railway line.

Pymont.—The municipalities of Glebe, Newtown, Erskineville, Darlington, Camperdown, Redfern, Alexandria, Waterloo, Mascot, and Botany, and that part of the city of Sydney west of George Street.

Eastern Suburbs.—The municipalities of Randwick, Paddington, Waverley, Woollahra, Vaucluse, North Sydney, Manly, and Mosman, and that part of the City of Sydney not included in Pymont's territory.

Canterbury.—The municipalities of Enfield, Canterbury, Marrickville, and Bankstown, and that part of the municipalities of Burwood and Ashfield south of the Main Suburban line.

St. George.—The municipalities of Hurstville, Kogarah, Bexley, Rockdale, and St. Peters, and the Sutherland Shire.

Gladesville-Ryde.—The municipalities of Concord, Ryde, Eastwood, Hunter's Hill, Lane Cove, and Willoughby, and the Hornsby and Kuringal shires.

Granville.—The municipalities of Granville, Parramatta, Ermington, Rydalmere, Auburn, Lidcombe, Homebush, Strathfield, and Dundas, and Baulkham Hills shire.

(5) The Annual Rules Revision meeting shall be held on Monday, the 20th October.

(6) District Clubs shall be inaugurated by a publicly convened meeting by the Association, and the whole of the players at present affiliated to the Association, shall be advised in writing of the meeting.

(7) District Clubs shall have headquarters approved by the Association.

(8) That where a District Club has a home ground the gate takings of all 1st Grade matches played thereon shall be distributed as follows:—

Tax, Ground and Referee's expenses plus the ground charge to be decided upon by the Association at the commencement of the season, to be first of all taken from the gross receipts, and the remainder, which shall be deemed the net proceeds, shall be divided as follows:—40% to the "Home" club, and 30% to the "Away" club, and 30% to the Association.

On Association controlled grounds the distribution to be as follows:—

A rental to be decided upon at the beginning of the season plus tax, ground and Referee's expenses to be subtracted from the gross receipts, the nett proceeds to be divided, 50% to the Association, and 25% to each of the competing clubs. The Association to bear the whole of the cost of advertising as well as all the administrative expenses in connection with the game.

(9) That the proposal that District Clubs should be subsidised by an amount of £25, making a total donation of £200 be deferred for the present.

The meeting, at 10.15 p.m., adjourned until next Monday night, when it is hoped the meeting will be concluded.

CHIEF RECOMMENDATIONS NOT ALREADY CONSIDERED.

(a) That the Association provide for five grades of football altogether to be designated: 1st grade, 2nd grade, A grade, B grade, and C grade.

(b) That the district clubs provide teams for first and second grades, there being no objection however to their providing teams for the other grades, the other grades to provide for club football and not to be on a district basis.

(c) The constitution of the Association to be so altered that district clubs at the general meeting shall have three votes, and at the annual meeting two votes, and that other clubs shall have at the general meeting two votes, and at the Council meeting one vote.

(d) The district club to have the right to call upon any player residing in the district to play for the district club if required. The district club requiring such players must apply direct to the Association, at the same time notifying the clubs and players concerned that the services of such players are required. Transfers from one district to another are not objected to, providing the district club for which the player is residually qualified certifies that it has not a place for the player in its 1st grade team.

Consideration was given to, but no finality reached on the question of a time limit such as 30th June being added to this clause, and also as to whether a district club should be required to pay either to the Association or to the club concerned a fee of, say £1 or £2, so that there would be some safeguard against district clubs indiscriminately trying out players residing in their districts, and thereby inconveniencing both the players and the clubs concerned.

(e) With regard to junior associations, it is felt that it would be unwise to interfere with the existing associations, but it is thought

(Continued on page 16).

The N.D.B.F. Association

GARDINER CUP REPLAY.

Wallsend Out Fernleigh at the Tramway.

By Full Back.

Wallsend, at the fourth attempt succeeded in outing Fernleigh. The Reds were easily the best team on the day, and were a greatly improved eleven.

Wallsend were the first to score, for shortly after the commencement Davidson netted. The lead, however, was shortlived, as Hancock equalised for Fernleigh with a good shot. The visitors then had the better of the game, and for a time it appeared as if they would increase their score. One particularly good shot of Smith's beat Bower, but it hit the bar and went behind.

Wallsend's next goal came as a result of a centre from R. Urwin, which Rees put over Davidson into the net. This reverse aroused Fernleigh, and Hancock was right through, when E. Urwin robbed him and cleared up field. Half-time arrived with the score—Wallsend 2, Fernleigh 1.

On resuming, Balmain at once attacked, but first Rees and then Owen cleared. Midfield play followed, and then Gilmore took the ball down towards Fernleigh's goal, and centred for Craig to net. Wallsend added three more goals, two by Davidson, and one by K. Urwin, making the total—Wallsend 6, Fernleigh 1.

Two injuries were received by a player from each team. Moore, Wallsend's back, and Davidson, Fernleigh's goalie, had to leave the field and were replaced. Both were accidents.

After the game, Wallsend entertained the visitors at Wallsend, dancing, games, and singing being indulged in till a very late hour.

B GRADE FINAL.

The early game was a surprise to most of the spectators. West Wallsend scored very early, and it appeared to be a "good thing" for the Blues, but Adamstown played better as the match progressed, and eventually won by 5 goals to 1. Ross scored Westy's only goal. While Alex. Cameron did the hat-trick, and Bush and Cook got one each for Adamstown, who will as a result receive the Association trophies. Westy holding the Wills Cup.

THIRD GRADE SEMI-FINAL.

At Young Wallsend, West Wallsend defeated Killingworth by 2 goals to 1, and by their win have earned their way into the final, and will meet the winner of Rovers and Adamstown.

C GRADE FINAL.

Contrary to all expectations, Kia Ora after an undefeated record, went under to West Wallsend in the final, Westy winning two goals to nil. The winners will receive both Cup and medals. A protest has been entered, and the birth certificates will decide the issue.

The defeating of West Wallsend B Grade and Kia Ora, C Grade, has meant that all the teams under the N.D.B.F.A. have suffered defeat. These two teams were the only teams that had not had a reverse.

Cessnock defeated New Lambton by two goals to nil, and the win puts them at the top of the table.

TO-DAY'S FIXTURES.

Gardiner Cup.

West Wallsend v Sydney, 3.15, at Tramway Ground. Referee, Mr. A. E. Court.

Woonona v Wallsend, in Sydney, 3.15. Referee, Mr. A. W. Bates.

Kerr Cup.

Cessnock v Neath, at Weston, 3 p.m. Referee, Mr. S. Smith.

Senior Grade.

Weston receive forfeit from Mayfield.

A GRADE SEMI-FINAL.

Rovers v. Adamstown, at Tramway, 1.30. Referee, Mr. Nicholson.

Sherwin-Williams' Cup.

Merewether v Jesmond, at Adamstown, 2 p.m. Referee, Mr. C. Nix.

SHERWIN-WILLIAMS' CUP DRAW.

Third Round.

Islington v Adamstown.
Boolaroo v Dudley.
Teralba v Cardiff or West Wallsend.
Rovers v Merewether or Jesmond.

A shield has been donated by the committee to the carnival of the P.S.A.A.A., for Super Primary Schools. That good coach, George Blair, attended the committee, and supported the application from the Hon. Sec. of the P.S.A.A.A., with the result that the shield was donated, and will be competed for 10 years, among the Super Primary Schools.

YOUNG WALLSEND GROUND.

A tender has been accepted for the clearing of the ground. The work will be commenced immediately; after clearing it will be ploughed and sown with grass. When completed the enclosed area will comprise two playing areas, and will rank amongst the best in the district.

NOTES.

Winning finalists will please note names of players required by the Hon. Secretary of Association as early as possible.

No player to receive a medal unless he has played in the final, or at least three competition matches.

Clubs holding Cups won in 1923 are requested to return to Association Hon. Secretary at the earliest opportunity.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL SOCCER.

At the Tramway Ground.

Blue and Gold met Green in a semi-final replay. The game resulted in a draw, 1—1.

Extra time was added, but the score remained unchanged. The game will be replayed.

Two friendly games, 1st, between Black and White and Blue and White. A win for Black and White. K. Boland 2, R. Miller 1, for Black and White; D. Stratton 1 for Blue and White. The 2nd between Red and Cerise and Blue brought a win to Red. Score: F. Feighan 1, H. Francis 1 for Red; F. Colligan 1 for Cerise and Blue.

REFEREES' MATCH.

The Newcastle Referees met their brothers from the Metropolis in a football match prior to the ordinary fixtures on Saturday. Mr. Jack Bartley refereed.

Sydney won the toss, and Skipper Fred Watson kicked off. Nix secured, and ran well down the wing, only to put behind. Clark, in goal for Sydney, was given a merry time, but he brought off some good saves. Little Billie Stott was very conspicuous, missing many kicks, and when he did connect, his shots were directed to the sky. Yah Sneddon played a great game, and proved he is not yet a has-been. Tarn was also defending well, and came to the rescue on many occasions, while Jock's punch out that went for a corner was a clever save. Wright scored Newcastle's only goal, but it was sufficient to ruin the game. Williams also played hard, but not fast. The redoubtable twins, Beach and Hanlon, stayed off innumerable attacks. Watty soon got tired.

For Sydney, Gill and Blakey were best, the latter being very unlucky not to equalise. George Skelly also tried hard, but when Jillum skittled him, he thought his time had come. The game ended in a win for the locals by one goal to nil.

At night the visitors were entertained to a dinner, and about 40 sat down, amongst them being Mr. A. A. Stirling, President of the N.D.B.F.A., Mr. J. H. Bloomfield, ex-President, and Mr. T. Crawford, President S.M.B.F.A. The toast list included: The King, by Chairman Mr. J. H. Sanderson; Sydney Referees, by Mr. J. H. Sanderson, supported by Mr. R. J. Roberts, responded to by Mr. W. Wright, who also proposed the Newcastle Referees' Association, and was supported by Mr. G. Skelly. The Visitors, by Mr. L. B. Tamlyn; Messrs. Stirling, Bloomfield, and Crawford responding.

The referee of the match, by Mr. P. J. Sheppard, and responded to by Mr. J. Bartley.

Items were rendered by Messrs. W. Stott, J. Sanderson, W. Wright, W. Martin, J. H. Bloomfield, and J. Sneddon.

A very pleasant evening was spent, and a return visit is being eagerly looked forward to.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE

	Senior Grade.				Goals				Pts
	P	W	L	D	F	A			
Cessnock	15	10	2	3	29	14	23		
Wallaseed	14	9	1	4	25	16	22		
West Wallsend	15	10	4	1	53	12	21		
Adamstown	16	9	5	2	23	17	20		
Kurri Kurri	14	6	8	0	26	27	12		
Weston	14	5	8	1	30	35	11		
New Lambton	16	4	9	3	16	29	11		
North	15	2	9	4	15	28	8		
Mayfield	13	2	11	0	11	50	4		

SPECTATORS' RIGHTS.

The Conduct of Crowds at Sporting Events.

INTERESTING DISCUSSION IN ENGLAND.

(By Tityrus).

During the progress of a Football League match between Stoke and Stockport County, the doyen of referees, John T. Howcroft, of Bolton, requested a spectator to leave the Victoria grounds, in the Potteries, before he would proceed further with the game.

In our last issue Mr. Howcroft stated that the man had used "foul" language, and that he would not have allowed the struggle to proceed unless the offender either voluntarily left the ground or was compulsorily removed.

This is not the only occurrence of this kind during the season, as Mr. A. E. Fogg, also of Bolton, took similar action in the course of a match at Accrington. It is also within my recollection that when a game had been concluded at Bramall Lane in the autumn one of the visiting team struck a spectator. There is also the incident of a Hull City player making an unseemly grimace, with fingers to his nose, at the people on the grandstand at Craven Cottage during the Christmas matches. Clearly there are faults common to both the public and the players.

Nor is this kind of thing peculiar to the football crowd. There have been what the descriptive writers call "scenes" on cricket grounds—many of them. Reading the Sydney newspaper, "The Referee," an excellent sporting journal, I see that in the first of the Sheffield Shield matches of the present Australian cricket season the crowd at Adelaide, "the City of Churches," made hostile demonstrations against Charles Kelleway, the New South Wales batsman, who was facing the attack of South Australia.

He was playing his plodding, defensive game, and the gathering booed and jeered until Kelleway stepped away from his wicket and silently refused to bat until one of the umpires ordered him to continue the game. I do not know where the umpire got his authority from. When Kelleway was out the "barrackers" cheered, hooted, and groaned.

This was very unusual, and it was left to the company in the pavilion to make a counter demonstration. When Kelleway was facing the Englishmen for about seven hours in the last Test match at Adelaide he was a hero, but when he saved N.S. Wales in the same manner he was merely a batting automaton to be thrown on a scrap heap of antiquated machinery.

It is very cheap to say that Kelleway incited the mob by taking any notice of their conduct, but a batsman cannot concentrate on every ball with the howls of rude people resounding in his ears.

Home Clubs Responsible.

These various incidents and manifestations naturally draw attention to the rights and customs of the spectators who flock to sports grounds to see matches of various kinds. The Football Association have closed grounds for various periods owing to the unseemly behaviour of partisans. The parent body have no direct jurisdiction over sightseers, but they surmount this difficulty by holding the club which owns rents, or leases the arena responsible for the good conduct of their supporters.

This may be a position which needs justification, because the offenders may have come from a distance with malice in their hearts. Possibly it is argued that the duty of the home club is to preserve order; often easier said than done.

NEXT SATURDAY

GARDINER CUP FINAL

If in Sydney

Royal Agricultural Show Ground

If in Newcastle

The Tramway Ground, Newcastle

Abbreviated Laws of the Game

Eleven players form a team. For positions see team list.

HANDLING THE BALL.—The goalkeepers only may play the ball with their hands, and they only within the penalty area. **INTENTIONAL** handling only is penalised by a free kick to the opposite side, opponents keeping back ten yards.

OFF-SIDE.—This is the hardest rule of all. A player cannot be off-side in his own half of the field of play, nor when the ball is last played by an opponent, nor if he is behind the ball when it is last played. He cannot be off-side when a corner kick or throw-in is taken, this protection ceasing when the ball is again played by one of his own side. With these general exceptions a **PLAYER MUST HAVE AT LEAST THREE OF HIS OPPONENTS NEARER THEIR OWN GOAL LINE.** To be penalised a player must be playing the ball or interfering with the play.

FREE KICK.—A free kick is awarded for handling the ball, tripping, kicking, jumping at, holding, pushing, or illegally charging an opponent or dangerous play.

PENALTY KICK.—This award for the following infringements within the "penalty" area (18 yards mark): Tripping, kicking, striking, jumping at an opponent, handling the ball, holding, pushing, or illegally charging an opponent. All players except the player taking the kick and the opponents' goal-keeper must keep outside the penalty area, and at least ten yards from where the kick is taken. The kick is taken from a mark 12 yards from the goal line.

GENERAL.—Intentional infringements only are penalised, and generally speaking the "advantage" rule is followed.

Charging is permissible, but

must not be violent or dangerous. Charging behind is illegal unless an opponent is obstructing, but it must under no circumstance be violent or dangerous.

GOAL.—A goal is scored when the ball has passed between the goal posts, under the bar, and completely over the goal line.

CORNER KICK.—If the ball is played behind by one of the defending side, an opponent shall kick it from within one yard of the corner flag.

THROW-IN.—The ball is out of play when it has passed completely over the touch line. The throw-in is taken by an opponent, who must stand with part of both feet on the line and throw the ball with both hands over his head.

DURATION OF GAME.—Except when otherwise arranged, the duration of a game shall be two spells of 45 minutes.

Snowy Baker's Unfailing Liniment

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A bottle should be in every player's kit; it is invaluable for easing pain, reducing inflaming and stiffness of the muscles and joints. Use it both when training and after every game. Apply the liniment immediately after the shower, and rub it in all over the body, and it will greatly minimise the inconvenience and pains that are almost certain to arise from exertion.

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Obtainable from all Chemists and Sports Depots.



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Mr.
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PROGRAMME

GARDINER CUP. SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND No. 2, 3.15 P.M.

Woonona Wallsend

Referee: Mr. A. W. Bates. Linesmen: M. H. Battin and S. Boyd.

WOONONA
(Red and Green)
GOAL
GOAL

- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| 1—W. CASLEY | 2—J. MUIR |
| 3—T. GERLING | 4—H. CUNNINGHAM (Capt.) |
| 5—N. CHENEY | |
| 6—W. BONSER | 7—E. JARRETT |
| 8—J. FLINT | 9—A. VEIGEL |
| 10—H. JAMES | |
| 10—S. WELLS | 9—P. DAVIDSON |
| 5—J. GILMORE | 4—R. INNES |
| 2—T. MOORE | 1—E. URWIN |

G. BOYD
GOAL
WALLSEND
(Red and Green)

Reserves—Woonona: 12—_____; 13—F. Veigel.
Reserves—Wallsend: 11—W. Scott; 12—K. Urwin; 13—J. McEwan; 14—A. Moore; 15—J. Johnson.

EARLY M.

GARDINER CUP. SYDNEY CRICKET GROUND No. 2, 1.45 P.M.

Pymont Range v. Granville

Referee: Mr. McLay.

PYRMONT RANGERS.

(Blue with White and White Cuffs).

GOAL
F. ANDERSON

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1—S. ROBINSON | 14—L. STOREY |
| 2—J. CRUM | 11—G. SO |
| 5—J. SHIPLEY | |
| 10—J. GIGG | 3—C. TIMMS |
| 9—E. ROBINSON | 8—A. WITON |
| 7—J. BURCHAM | 6—R. OSBORNE |
| | (One to lift) |
| 10—J. HELE | 9—F. RAMSAY |
| 8—H. V. B. | 7—G. MILNER |
| 6—S. BOURKE | |
| 5—H. SPURWAY | 4—G. EDDY |
| 3—A. ANDERSON | 2—C. LEABEATER |
| 1—L. LEABEATER | E. ATON |

GOAL
GRANVILLE
(Black and Whites)

Reserves—Pymont Rangers: 12—T. Hayton; 13—H. Crum.

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Protestant Churches Association

ALL THE NEWS.

Newtown Congs. A gave Lakemba Congs. A a very good run for their money last week. In fact, at full time the score was 1-1, and it was only after extra time had been played that Lakemba proved to be the victors. The game was very even throughout, with Newtown Congs. A, if anything, slightly the better team. Watson, A. Chessell, R. Allen and Marsden were the pick of the field. Finlayson had the misfortune to "do" his knee in again early in the match. As was expected, St. Pauls accounted for Ryde Meth. 3-1. Ryde held the Rozelle team until they scored, and then they went to pieces.

It came as a bit of a surprise to hear that Alex. Congs. had to maul down their colors against St. Bartholomews. Though it is admitted that the Pymont boys are good players, yet on the form exhibited by the Congs. when they met and towelled Austens, they should have accounted for St. Barts. easily. However, there was no doubt about it that on the day the better team won.

St. Johns Glebe, after a very patchy game, tossed St. Columbs 2-1. The game, though hardly contested by both teams, was the reverse of brilliant. Mantle was the pick of a poor twenty-two.

To-day's Games.

To-day St. Pauls meet Hurlstone Park Congs. on Canterbury Sports Ground, at 3.15 p.m. Though St. Pauls have been consistent during the whole season, Hurlstone Park came on with a rush towards the close, and it is quite on the cards that they will give the Rozelle team something to think about. Mr. Ref. D. Jackson will handle the game.

The final of the Second Grade K.O. will be played on Canterbury Sports Ground No. 1, at 1.45 p.m. St. Bartholomews (who are undefeated) will try conclusions with Newtown Congs. A. Both teams are as keen as mustard, both in good form, and both are up to full strength, so a real good game should be seen. The odds seem to be in favor of Secretary Wil-

ling's team getting home. Mr. Crutchley, President of the P.C.R.A., will act as the knight of the whistle.

The third grade final will be on Centen. Park No. 1, at 3 p.m., and Mr. L. Scott, Hon. Secretary of the P.C.R.A. Association, will handle the game. Both contestants, St. Johns Glebe and Croydon Congs. B, are confident of winning, so Mr. Scott will be kept moving. Though it is hard to forecast this fixture, the Glebe boys would seem to have more than a fighting chance.

St. George Branch.

The final of this competition was played on Leichhardt Oval last week. It was a great game, though on the day the better team—Carlton Meth. A—won 4-1. Every player was in good form, though the palm must be given to Campsie Meth's keeper. He was superb and saved his team times out of number. Mr. Ref. Brydie handled the game in a masterly manner. Incidentally it might be mentioned he couldn't handle his cloths in the same manner.

The question has been asked why the final of the St. George Branch was played on Leichhardt Oval, when St. George's Sports Ground was available.

Carlton Meth. A deserve great praise, as four weeks ago they were not given a chance. However, by clever playing and determination they have come out on top for the second year.

1st October, 1924.

Teams are again reminded that tickets for the presentation of trophies on the above date may be had from the Hon. Secretary. (2/-, including tax).

Finance.

There are one or two teams a bit backward in coming forward—with their cash. We do wish that they would not be so shy. In fact, if they do not get over their shyness, the P.C.S.F.A. is going to ask their respective clergy to assist them.

BRISBANE CONSIDERING.

The District Football Idea.

News comes that Brisbane is also considering the introduction of District Football for next year. It has been adopted in Tasmania, and of course has been in vogue in Newcastle with great success for a number of years. Queensland is even worse off, so far as a district following for their clubs is concerned, than Sydney, for many of the club names do not even suggest a district interest. Such names as Pineapple Rovers, Bush Rats, The Thistle, to mention glaring examples, cannot win much support in the districts. The following is entirely a personal matter, and the game suffers as a result of the poor public patronage. This year in Sydney it is estimated that the relegation of the Pymont District Club to the Second Division cost the Metropolitan Association £250, which it can certainly ill afford to lose.

CRESCENT OVAL.

Garden Island's Home Grounds. 3 minutes walk from Dulwich Hill Station; 15 minutes by train from Central Station.

WANTED, 40 persons willing to invest a deposit of £3, and the balance of £17 each at 2/- weekly, to purchase Crescent Oval for Football and Athletic purposes. Apply—

W. J. HOPKINS,

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PYRMONT SOCCER FOOTBALL CLUB

Will Hold a

BENEFIT DANCE

In aid of H. Robinson, who broke his leg playing for above club.

To be Held on

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23rd, 1924, at 8 p.m.

At Surreyville, City Road.

Prizes for Waltz and One-Step.

Tickets—1/- (plus tax).

A. Maclean, Hon. Treas.

W. Chapman, Hon. Sec.

LINCOLN CUP.

CLYDE OVAL, 3.15 P.M.

PROGRAMME

TWO BLUES v. BALMAIN FERNLEIGH

Referee: Mr. J. Lester

TWO BLUES

(Light and Dark Blue)

Goal
C. CALLAGHAN

1—E. RIGBY

3—N. HILL

6—C. MACE

7—E. HOUSTON

2—E. BAINBRIDGE

4—G. HOPKINS

5—T. CROFT

8—W. GALLOWAY

9—E. WALDON 10—H. FLYNN

Reserves—Two Blues: S. Hawksley.

O

Team Not Available.

BALMAIN FERNLEIGH

(Blue and Gold Halves)

THE METROPOLITAN SOCCER FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

TO-DAYS FIXTURES

Gardiner Cup.

Sydney v West Wallsend, Tramway Ground, Newcastle, 3.15. Referee, Mr. A. E. Court.

Woonona v Wallsend, Sydney Cricket Ground, 2, 3.15. Referee, Mr. A. E. Court.

Granville S.C. Ground, Mr. G. M'L. Balmain Referee, Mr. J. E. Court.

Sunlight Cup.

Campsie Thistle v Pymont, Canterbury No. 1. Referee, Mr. W. Wright.

Sunlight v Botany Albions, Easton Park, 3.15. Referee, Mr. G. M'Grath.

Bankstown and Metters matches deferred.

Cronin Cup.

Annandale Altona v Lilyfield Rangers, Ibrox Park, 3.15. Referee, Mr. G. Skelly.

Linesmen: S.C. Ground No. 2—Messrs. H. Battin and S. Boyd.

"McMahon made no mistake with his goal for Balgownie; the movement was started by Rhodes. The good Rhodes movement."

LEICHHARDT OVAL.

The announcement by Mr. F. C. Packer, Hon. Treasurer of the M.S.F.A., that only £6 had been lost by the Association as a result of the leasing of Leichhardt Oval, came as a surprise to most delegates at last Monday's meeting. The position if, of course, much better, even than this. No ground fees have been charged on this, or any other Association ground. In addition the Balmain Fernleigh and Balmain Gladstones Clubs benefited to an extent of nearly £25.

CHINESE IN NEW ZEALAND.

The third test match between New Zealand and China was played at Dunedin last Saturday, and resulted in a win for New Zealand by five goals to three. The Dominion team led at half-time by four goals to one, and were content to take matters easy in the second half. As only four test matches were arranged, and seeing that New Zealand have now won two, and drawn another, they have won the rubber. It is definitely announced that the Chinese will not play any matches in Australia on the way home, arrangements having been made for the return journey, which will give them no time either in New South Wales or Queensland.

Note.—Word has since come to hand that the Chinese will arrive in Sydney on October 7th, and leave on October 8th for China.

POT SHOTS.

There are some unfortunate things happen in football; the referee seems to be one of them.

According to remarks heard at the Sydney-West Wallsend match last Saturday last, the referee could not be said to have been a Reay of hope for either side.

"A very noticeable feature was the neglect of Bonser by Jarrett. This player had many fine chances to receive a pass, but they never came over."—"S. News."—A Bonser chance let slip.

PREMIERSHIP TABLE.

	P	W	L	D	P	A	Pts
Granville	12	10	1	1	44	16	21
Two Blues	13	6	3	4	21	15	16
Auburn	14	5	5	4	19	23	14
Bal. Gladstones	11	4	3	4	18	24	12
Pymont Rgs.	13	4	6	3	25	26	11
Sydney	12	3	4	5	19	16	11
Gladsville	13	3	6	4	20	33	10
Bal. Fernleigh	12	—	7	5	9	23	5

Hornsby, the team that played for a number of years in the Metropolitan Second Grade competition, won the "A" Grade competition of the Ryde Association this year. Six of their players represented the Ryde Association in the team that won the Association Cup.

*Don't Wait For His
Birthday!—*



and don't let him use ordinary toilet soaps for shaving. Buy him a tube of

INDASIA SHAVING CREAM

He will then experience shaving luxury. Indasia Shaving Cream is a scientific compound of finest oils and flower perfumes. It is invaluable for tender skins and assists the razor to make the daily shave a pleasure.

179

The Metropolitan Juniors

WARREN AVOCA WIN.

Juvenile Semi-Final.

Ibrox Park was the venue of the juvenile semi-final. Waratahs won the toss. Roden set the ball in motion, and play was immediately carried to Rozelle's twenty-five. Fast and interesting play was witnessed, both teams striving for the upper hand. Hunt was playing a great defensive game, giving Sweeney, who was frequently out of position, little opportunity to show out, spoilt his efforts by using the touch line too often. The forwards of both teams lost many scoring opportunities through over anxiousness. Waratahs forced two corners in succession, and from the second Wara's left wing received close in, and his placed shot gave Avoca's keeper no chance. Half-time followed.

The half opened with acceleration, both goals being scored. Kay, Avoca, was a wonderful display; his play, nor not being up to the mark. Wright sent a good pass to Sweeney, who made a good run, and crossed the ball well, for Morton, Avoca's right wing to score from. With the scores level both teams made determined efforts to gain the major point; the centre halves, Hurkett and Seddon, were playing at the top of their form, and repelled many dangerous movements. Rozelle's forwards by playing too close together seriously affected their play. Avoca's second goal was the result of Hunt misjudging a ball with his head, and Cerutti receiving, he landed a good goal. Rozelle now made the pace, and the final stages Avoca was given an anxious time. Hurkett was transferred to full back, and with Kay kept the last line of defence intact; the final whistle came with the scores unaltered. The pick of the winners were Kay, Hurkett, Wright, Rudd and Morton. For the losers, Hunt, Seddon, Hancock and Gregg shone out. Both teams were evenly matched, and the result was a fair reflection of the game. The winners play Punch Park in the final next Saturday.

CHARITY CUP.

On Saturday last Leichhardt proved too good for Sydney, defeating them by 6 goals to one on Canterbury Sports Ground. Today they play Lilyfield (winners of the A Grade), in the semi-final at Canterbury, early. A keen tussle is looked forward to.

B GRADE K.O.

St. Peters were successful in winning the B Grade K.O. by defeating Leichhardt Juniors (B Grade premiers) by the odd goal in three, after a close and exciting game.

ALL-AGE FINAL.

Marrickville Avoca v United Juniors.

Owing to the cricketers taking over Primrose Park, and no suitable ground being obtained, the final has again been deferred, but has definitely been set down for Saturday, the 27th inst., at Canterbury Sports Ground No. 1, for 3.15 p.m.

Neither Avocas or Juniors have been defeated this season, but have played three draws; the drawn games between the two teams have resulted 1 all and 2 all; the other drawn game of each was against Leichhardt Juniors, the scores (1 all) being the same in both cases.

The early fixture to the final will probably be either the Charity Cup final or the C Grade K.O. final.

THE PROFESSIONAL.

Can He Outlast the Amateur?

The "Queensland Record" Says Yes!

The visit of the Englishmen next season should be of special interest in that it will surely demonstrate the great difference between the play of the amateur and the "pro." We are assuming, of course, that the visiting team will

be largely comprised of professionals. The difference referred to becomes obvious when the two sets of players are in opposition. You will see the amateurs go off with a great dash, starting like giants. But as the game progresses, the superior pace and stamina of the professionals begins to tell, and before the end the probability is that the amateurs have been soundly defeated, not because, in a strictly footballing sense, they have not been as good as the "pros," but because the latter have been better trained to stay the pace. For that reason there is a great deal to be said in favor of professionalism. Its advent in Australia would obviously place the code on a much higher plane than it at present enjoys. As football is played in Great Britain at the present time, the matter of training is a very important one, especially as affecting the amateur representatives in sides which are largely professional. There are plenty of amateurs who train regularly and conscientiously enough, and who keep themselves fit thereby. But rarely will one come up against an amateur side which can hold its own against a professional team in the matter of physical fitness.

Here, probably, may be found one of the reasons why so very few amateur players make anything like regular appearances in the best class of League football in the Old Country. At the present moment the number of amateur players in the teams of the First Division could be numbered on the fingers of one hand. With the introduction of professionalism, Soccer in Australia would certainly have a great future. It would only be a matter of time when, like the game in Great Britain, it would stand unrivalled as the King of Sports.

CRONIN CUP ASSOCIATION.

The draw of the Cronin Cup, 1st round, is as follows:—

Kenilworth v Leichhardt.

Annandale Altona v Lilyfield Rangers.

Balmain Scottish v Sunlight.

Balmain Gladstone the bye.

The St. George Association

CHALLENGE CUP.

Now the Association have concluded its programme of competition matches, attention will be given to the St. George Challenge Cup, which is run on the same rules as the Gardiner Cup.

The following teams have entered:—Lakemba, Kogarah, Lancashire, Kogarah A, Kogarah Pres, Cronulla, Rockdale, St. George, Penshurst United, Arncliffe, Carlton, Brighton, Marrickville Avoca, Revesby. In the first round the following have been eliminated: Brighton, Lakemba, Kogarah Pres, Carlton, Cronulla, Revesby, Penshurst United.

LAST SATURDAY'S RESULTS.

The biggest surprise last Saturday was the result of the match Kogarah (St. George premiers) v Lakemba (Canterbury Association premiers), on the St. George Sports Ground, Kogarah winning a good game 5-2. The game from the commencement was hotly contested; at half time Lakemba had scored twice per Cook and Goodwin against Kogarah, one goal by Storey. The Lakemba supporters were quite confident that they could win, but Kogarah's condition again won them the match; they penetrated Lakemba's defence upon four occasions, Storey (2) and Brown and Soames notched the points. Lakemba's forwards had several good scoring opportunities, but completely failed before the splendid defence of Munns, Coleman, Beach and Amy. The other Cup matches were: Kogarah A, 2 (Beach and Coleman) beat Revesby Rovers at the Canterbury Sports Ground.

Lancashire 5 (Hayman) beat Kogarah Pres. nil.

The game between Penshurst United, 2 goals (James, Dodd) and St. George, 2 (Towers, Hulbert) ended in a draw after extra time.

It was alleged that Penshurst United played ineligible players against St. George, and the latter lodged a protest; Penshurst United were notified to defend the protest, and as they failed to put in an appearance on Tuesday night up to 10 o'clock, the P. and D. Committee awarded the match to St. George. Penshurst United have been a wonderful team during

the season, finishing level with the premiers, and must be congratulated upon the success; at the same time it is sincerely regretted that they saw fit to play players from the Penshurst team after they were advised not to do so.

TO-DAY'S GAMES.

The second round of the St. George Challenge Cup will be played on the St. George Sports Ground to-morrow. The chief event will be between Arncliffe and Marrickville Avoca, on No. 1 Ground, commencing 3.15. Marrickville Avoca were the premiers in the M.J.F.A. last season, and are also in the final this season. The teams are as follows:—Marrickville Avoca: Goalkeeper, W. Ogle; Full-backs, A. Burfield, F. Kerman; Half-backs, C. Hill, A. Wright (Capt.), W. Hetherick; Forwards, W. Orr, M. Jones, D. Scott, J. Avis, W. Speechley; Reserve, F. William.

The Arncliffe team will be selected from the following:—J. Dodds, R. Dodds, D. Cook, S. Creber, W. Perry, W. Mankin, J. Saville (Capt.), E. Arrowsmith, H. Lester, F. Green, H. Newhouse, F. Hampson, J. Horne, and J. Jones.

The other challenge matches are:—

Lancashire v Rockdale, St. George Sports Ground No. 1, 1.45.
Kogarah A v St. George, St. George Sports Ground No. 2, 3.15.
Kogarah the bye.

C GRADE KNOCK-OUT.

St. George v Banksia, St. George Sports Ground No. 2, 1.45.

SIX-A-SIDE COMPETITION.

The Management Committee have decided to run a six-a-side competition on the St. George Sports Ground, providing that sufficient entries are received. Entries are open to any teams in the metropolitan area, and will be 5/- per team. Information can be obtained either from J. Jones, Hon. Secretary, Glen Road, Arncliffe (phone, Kog. 1947), or to F. West, St. George Sports Ground, Kogarah (phone, Kog. 1319). It is hoped to start on Saturday, October 11th. If sufficient entries are received, other events will also be held.

ST. GEORGE CHURCHES' FINAL.

The final of the St. George Protestant Churches was held at Leichhardt Oval. It was a splendid match throughout; Carlton Methodists played a much better game than Campsie Methodists, their opponents, and won four goals to 1. In the first half there was no score; Carlton had many scoring opportunities, but the defence of Campsie was too good. In the second half Carlton was the better team. Thompson (2), Smith and Steptoe scored for Carlton, and Williams, for Campsie. McKay played a particular good game for Carlton, and time after time broke up good forward movements.

PROGRESSING?

Danger of Poor Competitions.

The hope has been expressed that we will have operating next season a Junior Association in every one of the eight districts. Is this possible? We may be able to "run" a competition in every district, but we must make sure that the competitions are reasonably strong, and will provide good football. Granville, Gladesville, Ryde, St. George, Canterbury, Eastern Suburbs, and Manly will all have junior associations, and either Balmain or Annandale. Leichhardt will also have a junior organisation. Would it not be better for this latter association to control junior football in the three remaining districts—Annandale-Leichhardt, Balmain and Pyrmont—instead of the one, and so form a strong organisation, or is the idea worth considering to allow the present Metrop. Junior Association to operate in those three districts, and still retain Primrose Park as a headquarters. This latter could be, of course, transferred to the Canterbury Association at fair value, for improvement, and etc., and a headquarters in the Balmain district obtained.

It seems that the M.J.S.F.A. must either go out of existence, or find an outlet for its activities, and the three districts concerned would be fortunate to commence with the assets of the M.J.S.F.A. behind them.

MORE GOALS WANTED.

Scoring is becoming so slow in First-class Football that it is proposed to provide the Forwards with a bigger Target.

By Joe Smith (Captain of Bolton Wanderers and English International.)

It is a truism that figures can be made to prove anything—or nothing. Just recently, football writers, and critics of the game generally, have been trying to prove by figures that we are rapidly approaching a day when there will be practically no goals in first-class matches.

I am going to be fair on this matter, so far as I can, and at the outset I must say that I am getting more and more pessimistic. In the four complete seasons since the war there has been a steady, if not sensational, drop in the number of successful shots sent in by players belonging to first-class clubs. This applies to all the various divisions, I think; but I will only give one or two figures relating to First Division matches. They show that there is, on the face of it, some justification for the suggestion that we are approaching a stalemate period in football.

In the season of 1919-20 there were 1332 goals secured by First Division teams in all their matches.

In the following season there was a drop of 56, in the season after that another drop of 32, and a still further fall last season of 29 goals.

To put the matter in another way, there has been, in the four seasons, a complete drop of 117 goals in the aggregate, so far as the First Division football is concerned. And Second Division figures tell a similar story.

Now, for every effect there is a cause—or, possibly, causes. And it may be interesting if we look at these causes from the point of view of the goal-scorer. Having sent a few shots home in my time, perhaps I may speak for him.

Naturally, the first and obvious suggestion is that the forwards, the men who should score the goals, are showing a definite decline in power. There may be something in this, though it seems to me a strange sort of doctrine.

Never So Difficult.

I have been in football for as many years as I care to remember, and I think that the fall in the average number of goals scored per match is not so much due to less able forward play as to a general improvement in defence. I know it is the fashion to applaud the giants of the past and to gibe at the "pigmies" of the present; but, for my own part, I am firmly convinced that never in the history of the game was it so difficult to score goals as it is now.

In the first place, there is scarcely a set of defenders in the country which does not adopt, at some period or other, what everybody knows as offside tactics. In the old days there were certain teams which had a reputation for playing the offside game; but these teams were limited, and the number of full-backs who could play the offside game well was quite small.

Now, it is the exception rather than the rule to come across a full-back who does not thoroughly understand the delicate art of putting the opposing forwards into an offside position.

I could, of course, use the whole of the space at my disposal in telling how forwards can dodge the offside trap—in theory. In practice, though, it is not so easy. And the more attacks get broken up by offside tactics the less likelihood is there of goals being numerous.

Another point with a distinct connection to the offside tactics. In recent times ideas regarding full-back players have been considerably revised. In the old days a full-back was never asked to show his pace; he was asked how hard he could kick the ball, and how persistently he could tackle.

Closer than a Brother.

To-day it is no unusual thing to find full-backs who can give forwards a start for sheer pace, and clearly the possession of pace enables a defender to get much farther away from goal in comparative safety than is the case with a slow-moving full-back. Even if, in advancing, the full-back fails to lure the opposition into the offside trap he has always a sporting chance of using his speed to overtake the forward with the ball.

On top of this extra pace, which is the big asset of the modern

full-back, there has been a general tightening-up of defensive play generally, especially in the matter of covering tactics. Personally, I am inclined to the opinion that present football is based more on defensive than it used to be. The number of attacking half-backs has decreased, while the number of vigilant and successful tacklers in the half-back line has increased, all of which makes it more and more difficult for forwards to get the ball anywhere near goal.

Let a footballer of to-day gain anything like a reputation as a goal scorer, and what happens? He finds in match after match, some fellow of the opposition told off to look after him, and, believe me, it is not easy to find a way to goal when an efficient opponent never leaves you for an instant.

Quantity or Quality?

All this discussion about the scarcity of goals brings us to an important suggestion. Why not make goal-scoring easier? We could do so by the simple expedient of increasing the area at which the man with the ball has to shoot and this proposal has been put forward seriously of late.

It is argued, with a certain amount of justification, that goals are the spice of the game from the onlookers' point of view, and that, consequently, if there were more goals, the spectators would like the games better. If it were easier to get goals, we might get results like twelve—six to replace two—one. But let us hesitate before we adopt the bigger target proposal.

I am not going to deny the charm of goals; but, in my opinion, to make goal-scoring easy would rob the points actually obtained of half their charm. If the average match produced a dozen goals instead of two, then I suggest that there would be less thrill for the onlookers in the whole dozen than in the two under present conditions.

No, I do not believe in making goal-scoring easy. The forwards must work for their points. What is more, I believe the pendulum will swing back again naturally, because the forwards of to-day, realising as they do the difficulties of goal scoring in view of the new conditions will evolve new schemes to overcome the more efficient defence.

EASTERN SUBURBS ASSOCIATION.

The general meeting of the above Association, held at the Coronation Hall, Bondi Junction, on Thursday, the 11th instant, was well attended considering the inclemency of the weather, there being between 40 and 50 members present when the chairman rose at 8 p.m., to give a short resume of the work that had been done by the committee since the inaugural meeting of the Association on 31st July last.

The first matter on the agenda paper was the drawing up of the Rules, and it was unanimously agreed, on the recommendation of the Committee, that the Constitution and Rules as set out by the Granville District Football Association be adopted, subject to the alterations which were necessary to make them applicable to the Eastern Suburbs Association. The alterations were read to the meeting, which approved of same, and the matter of preparing them for presentation to the members at the next general meeting was left in the hands of the Committee.

Election of Officers.

President: Mr. W. Robertson was unanimously elected as President, and the Association are fortunate in securing such an able Soccerite for the position, as "Billy" is well known at headquarters, and an untiring worker in the interests of Soccer football generally.

Vice-Presidents: In addition to Messrs. C. Holt, A. V. Linsell, J. Magee, and J. Park being elected, the meeting decided to also ask the Mayors of the Municipalities comprised in the Eastern Suburbs to accept positions as Vice-Presidents, and it is sincerely hoped that these gentlemen will interest themselves in the new Association, and thus make it thoroughly representative of the Eastern Suburbs.

Mr. Arthur Magee stated that he found it impossible, for private reasons, to take the position of Hon. Secretary (for next season at any rate), but proposed Mr. Haynes for the vacancy; this was duly seconded, and carried, and Mr. Haynes accepted the position

on the understanding that Mr. Magee would help him with advice, if required at any time. This the latter gentleman readily agreed to do.

The position of Assistant Hon. Secretary was filled by Mr. Vanzuylen, of Bondi, who explained that he came from a country where only one kind of football is played, and that is Soccer. Mr. Vanzuylen is a native of Holland, and an exceptionally keen enthusiast.

Mr. Young accepted the position of Registrar of the Association.

The position of Hon. Treasurer was mentioned, but the meeting decided to leave same vacant until the general meeting in 1925, and the Hon. Secretary was asked to act also as Hon. Treasurer in the meantime.

The following gentlemen were appointed as Management Committee:—Messrs. Atkinson, Baylton, Elliott, Page, Pryor and Sharman. The committee later arranged to have their first meeting at the School of Arts Hall, Bondi Road, on Tuesday, the 14th October.

The following fees were adopted: Affiliation: Schools, free; under 16, 5/-; under 18, 7/6; under 21, 10/-; and All-Age, 12/6. The entrance fees to be the same as the affiliation fees.

It was decided that the next general meeting be held not later than the first week in March.

Many matters were brought up by members and enthusiastically discussed. All members are keenly looking forward to next foot-

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ball season, when it is hoped, and at present it appears very likely, that the Association's debut will be a great success.

Any Soccerite wishing to get into touch with the new Association can do so by writing to Mr. Haynes, Consett Avenue, Bondi.

DISTRICT FOOTBALL.
(Continued from page 4).

that they should only provide for players under 21 years of age, and that where competitions are for players over 21 years of age they should be controlled by the senior associations.

(g) The Committee state that in their opinion that under the scheme outlined it would not be necessary for the present constitution of the management of the game to be altered; the management committee could, it is thought, be constituted as at present, the management committee being elected at the annual general meeting.

"Soccer supporter" writes that he sees no reason why a strong Soccer team, or two teams, could not be formed in the Railway Workshops; other codes are already represented, and he thinks it only requires someone to make the start and the result would be gratifying. It is to be hoped that some Soccer enthusiast will get to work and organise the Railways.

HINTS FOR CLUB SECRETARIES.

- (1) All protests must be in writing, and in duplicate, and lodged with 10/- fee within two days.
- (2) See that your club always has a ball available.
- (3) See that your players take the field in proper uniform—fines will be enforced.
- (4) Send the result of your match to the Secretary each week, whether you win or lose.
- (5) Send your delegate to the Council Meeting, held on the first Monday in each month.

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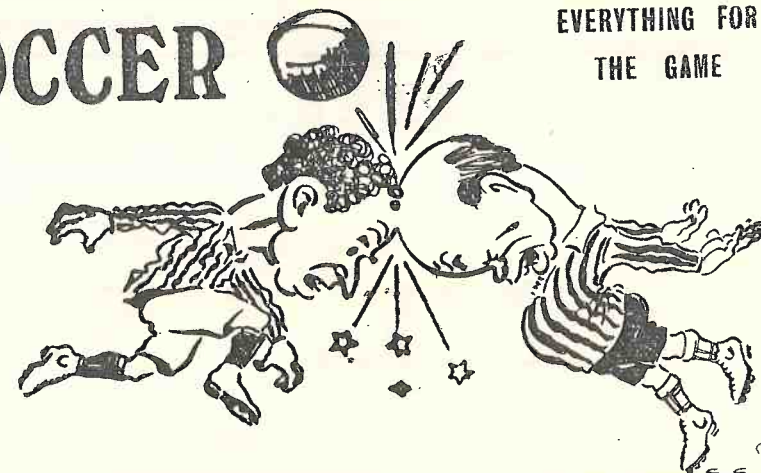
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